

(LMT)

Fertilizers	Consumption		
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Urea	197.67	206.65	222.95
DAP	56.24	62.56	67.63
MOP	18.41	24.06	27.31

Demand and supply of fertilizers

452. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the overall scenario in the country, regarding (quantities of) demand and supply of various chemical fertilizers, item wise, and gap thereof, fertilizer-wise;
- (b) whether the said gap would impact the prices of chemical fertilizers and result in black marketing;
- (c) if so, the assessment and remedial measures taken thereon;
- (d) the assessment regarding impact of said shortfall on overall production of agricultural crops in the country and consequent loss to the farmers; and
- (e) the steps Government intend to take to ameliorate the lot of the poor farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B. K. HANDIQUE): (a) Demand, availability and sale of fertilizers in the country during 2006-07, upto January' 07, was as follows:

01.04.2006 to 31.01.2007 (in lakh MT)

Product	Demand (Assessed before the season)	Availability	Sales
Urea	223.12	222.94	208.71
DAP	73.46	77.79	62.09
MOP	28.44	22.76	20.06

Availability of fertilisers has been higher than the sales.

(b) to (e) Questions do not arise.

Revival of fertilizer plants

453. SHRI JAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state revival status of Madras Fertilizers Limited, Hindustan Fertilizers Corporation and Fertilizer Corporation of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B. K. HANDIQUE): Regarding revival of Madras Fertilizers Limited, possibilities for financial restructuring of the company are being explored. Regarding revival of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation and Fertilizer Corporation of India it is stated that as per the Cabinet decision dated 07.12.2006 the matter has been considered by the Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) in its meeting held on 09.02.2007. As soon as confirmed minutes are received from BRPSE further action in the matter will be initiated.

Medicine price control

†454. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has issued instructions for reducing prices of medicines in the country;
- (b) if so, the facts in this regard;
- (c) whether Government have taken any concrete action so far for reducing prices of medicines;
- (d) if so, the details of the said action; and
- (e) the percentage of decrease in prices of medicines as a result of such action?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.